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Docket No.: 066872-0017 (17452 BOT)

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Steward, Lance E., et al.  
Appl. No. : 09/942,024  
Filed : August 28, 2001  
Title : FRET PROTEASE ASSAYS FOR  
BOTULINUM SEROTYPE A/E  
TOXINS  
Grp./A.U. : 1645  
Examiner: : Khatol S. Shahnan-Shah

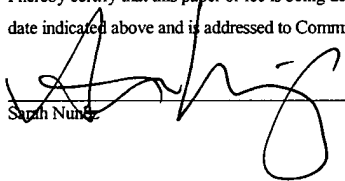
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Sarah Nunez

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of September 21, 2004, entry of the following amendments and consideration of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.